

§ 13.40

or settle any penalty or assessment determined by the ALJ in any Initial Decision.

(k) The Authority Head will promptly serve each party to the appeal with a copy of the decision of the Authority Head and with a Statement describing the right of any Person determined to be liable for a penalty or assessment to seek judicial review.

(l) Unless a petition for review is filed as provided in 31 U.S.C. 3805 after a Defendant has exhausted all administrative remedies under this part and within 60 days after the date on which the Authority Head serves the Defendant with a copy of the Authority Head's decision, a determination that a Defendant is liable under § 13.3 is final and is not subject to judicial review.

§ 13.40 Stays ordered by the Department of Justice.

If at any time the Attorney General or an Assistant Attorney General designated by the Attorney General transmits to the Authority Head a written finding that continuation of the administrative process described in this part with respect to a Claim or Statement may adversely affect any pending or potential criminal or civil action related to such Claim or Statement, the Authority Head will stay the process immediately. The Authority Head may order the process resumed only upon receipt of the written authorization of the Attorney General.

§ 13.41 Stay pending appeal.

(a) An Initial Decision is stayed automatically pending disposition of a motion for reconsideration or of an appeal to the Authority Head.

(b) No administrative stay is available following a final decision of the Authority Head.

§ 13.42 Judicial review.

Section 3805 of title 31, United States Code, authorizes judicial review by an appropriate United States District Court of a final decision of the Authority Head imposing penalties or assessments under this part and specifies the procedures for such review.

§ 13.43 Collection of civil penalties and assessments.

Sections 3806 and 3808(b) of title 31, United States Code, authorize actions for collection of civil penalties and assessments imposed under this part and specify the procedures for such actions.

§ 13.44 Right to administrative offset.

The amount of any penalty or assessment that has become final, or for which a judgment has been entered under § 13.42 or § 13.43, or any amount agreed upon in a compromise or settlement under § 13.46, may be collected by administrative offset under 31 U.S.C. 3716, except that an administrative offset may not be made under that subsection against a refund of an overpayment of Federal taxes, then or later owing by the United States to the Defendant.

§ 13.45 Deposit in Treasury of United States.

All amounts collected pursuant to this part will be deposited as miscellaneous receipts in the Treasury of the United States, except as provided in 31 U.S.C. 3806(g).

§ 13.46 Compromise or settlement.

(a) Parties may make offers of compromise or settlement at any time.

(b) The Reviewing Official has the exclusive authority to compromise or settle a case under this part at any time after the date on which the Reviewing Official is permitted to issue a Complaint and before the date on which the ALJ issues an Initial Decision.

(c) The Authority Head has exclusive authority to compromise or settle a case under this part at any time after the date on which the ALJ issues an Initial Decision, except during the pendency of any review under § 13.42 or during the pendency of any action to collect penalties and assessments under § 13.43.

(d) The Attorney General has exclusive authority to compromise or settle a case under this part during the pendency of any review under § 13.42 or of any action to recover penalties and assessments under 31 U.S.C. 3806.

(e) The Investigating Official may recommend settlement terms to the

Reviewing Official, the Authority Head, or the Attorney General, as appropriate. The Reviewing Official may recommend settlement terms to the Authority Head, or the Attorney General, as appropriate.

(f) Any compromise or settlement must be in writing and signed by all parties and their Representatives.

§ 13.47 Limitations.

(a) The notice of hearing with respect to a Claim or Statement must be served in the manner specified in § 13.8 within 6 years after the date on which such Claim or Statement is Made.

(b) If the Defendant fails to serve a timely answer, service of a notice under § 13.10(b) will be deemed a notice of hearing for purposes of this section.

(c) The statute of limitations may be extended by agreement of the parties.

PART 15—ENFORCEMENT OF NON-DISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF DISABILITY IN PROGRAMS OR ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

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AUTHORITY: Pub. L. 107-296, 116 Stat. 2135 (6 U.S.C. 1 *et seq.*); 5 U.S.C. 301; 29 U.S.C. 794.

SOURCE: 68 FR 10886, Mar. 6, 2003, unless otherwise noted.

§ 15.1 Purpose.

The purpose of this part is to effectuate section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 ("Section 504"), as amended by section 119 of the Rehabilitation, Comprehensive Services, and Developmental Disabilities Amendments of 1978, which prohibits discrimination on

the basis of disability in programs or activities conducted by Executive agencies. The provisions established by this part shall be effective for all components of the Department, including all Department components that are transferred to the Department, except to the extent that a Department component already has existing section 504 regulations.

§ 15.2 Application.

This part applies to all programs or activities conducted by the Department of Homeland Security (Department), except for programs or activities conducted outside the United States that do not involve individuals with a disability in the United States.

§ 15.3 Definitions.

For purposes of this part:

(a) *Auxiliary aids* means services or devices that enable persons with impaired sensory, manual, or speaking skills to have an equal opportunity to participate in, and enjoy the benefits of, programs or activities conducted by the Department. For example, auxiliary aids useful for persons with impaired vision include readers, materials in Braille, audio recordings and other similar services and devices. Auxiliary aids useful for persons with impaired hearing include telephone handset amplifiers, telephones compatible with hearing aids, telecommunications devices for deaf persons (TTYs), interpreters, notetakers, written materials and other similar services and devices.

(b) *Complete complaint* means a written statement that contains the complainant's name and address, and describes the Department's alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Department of the nature and date of the alleged violation of section 504. It shall be signed by the complainant or by someone authorized to do so on his or her behalf. Complaints filed on behalf of classes of individuals with disabilities shall also identify (where possible) the alleged victims of discrimination.

(c) *Facility* means all or any portion of a building, structure, equipment, road, walk, parking lot, rolling stock, or other conveyance, or other real or personal property.